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# Current Intelligence Digest

DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

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39

7 December 1967  
0244/67

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C O N T E N T S

(Information as of 1200 EST)

GENERAL

Vietnam  
(Page 2)

Situation report.

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GENERAL

Vietnam

Scattered skirmishes have marked the military action for the past two days.

A company of the US 1st Infantry Division engaged an estimated two enemy platoons approximately one mile from the Bu Dop Special Forces camp in Phuoc Long Province on 5 December, and a US patrol was hit in the same area on 6 December. The camp was the scene of a heavy enemy attack on 29 November, and of sporadic clashes since.

US forces took light casualties in two other skirmishes on 5 December, one in Quang Nam Province south of Da Nang and the other in Binh Dinh Province. A total of 34 enemy troops were killed in the two actions. One of the casualties in the Quang Nam engagement has been identified from personal letters found on his body as the commander of the 3rd Regiment of the North Vietnamese 2nd Division.

Five prisoners from a Viet Cong local force unit in Pleiku Province say that their unit received North Vietnamese replacements in September. This is the second indication of

North Vietnamese replacements for this particular unit, and similar reports have been received on several other local force units in I and II Corps.

Interrogation reports and captured documents indicate that the Communists in Military Region 5 have reinforced their sapper capability through infiltration from North Vietnam. The same thing is apparently going on in other areas of the country, pointing to an increased enemy emphasis on sapper units. The Communists evidently regard them as a relatively inexpensive way to inflict casualties and destruction on allied installations and population centers.

Cambodia has reacted to President Thieu's recent assertion that South Vietnam reserved the right to pursue Communist troops into Cambodia by issuing an official warning that Cambodian forces would resist any such crossing. Recent incursions into South Vietnam by Cambodian MIGs suggest that air patrols along the border probably have been stepped up. There is no evidence, however, that Cambodian border units have been alerted. [redacted]

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